



NEW COVENANT CHURCH

VISION FOR 2024

*Love & Serve*

*"For you, brethren, have been called to liberty;  
only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh,  
but through love serve one another."*

*Galatians 5:13*

PASTOR BRYAN HUDSON, D.Min.



# God's Promises Do Not Expire

**Psalm 65:11**, *You crown the year with  
Your goodness, And **Your paths** drip with  
abundance*



# Galatians 5:13

*For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, **but through love serve one another.***



Nothing is more foundational to our walk as Christ followers than **God's love for us and our love for others.**



- There are a lot of motivations in life.
- What motivates you?



# What Motivates People

- External Rewards
- Hitting “rock bottom”
- Self-image
- Self-validation
- Curiosity
- Control
- Current mood
- Achievement (getting things done)
- Power (having influence over others)
- Belonging (having good relationships)
- Etc.



# What Motivates God?

**John 3:16**

*For **God** so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.*



**Our Vision for 2024 is...**



**Loving God. Loving People.  
Serving the World.**



# Three Ingredients to the God Kind of Love

- 1. Is universal and not selective
- 2. It is sacrificial and not selfish
- 3. It gives and doesn't take



# **This World's Kind of Love**

- 1. Narrow and highly selective
- 2. Stingy and selfish
- 3. It takes and gives mainly for selfish gain



# Love Can Go in the Wrong Direction

## 1 Timothy 6:10

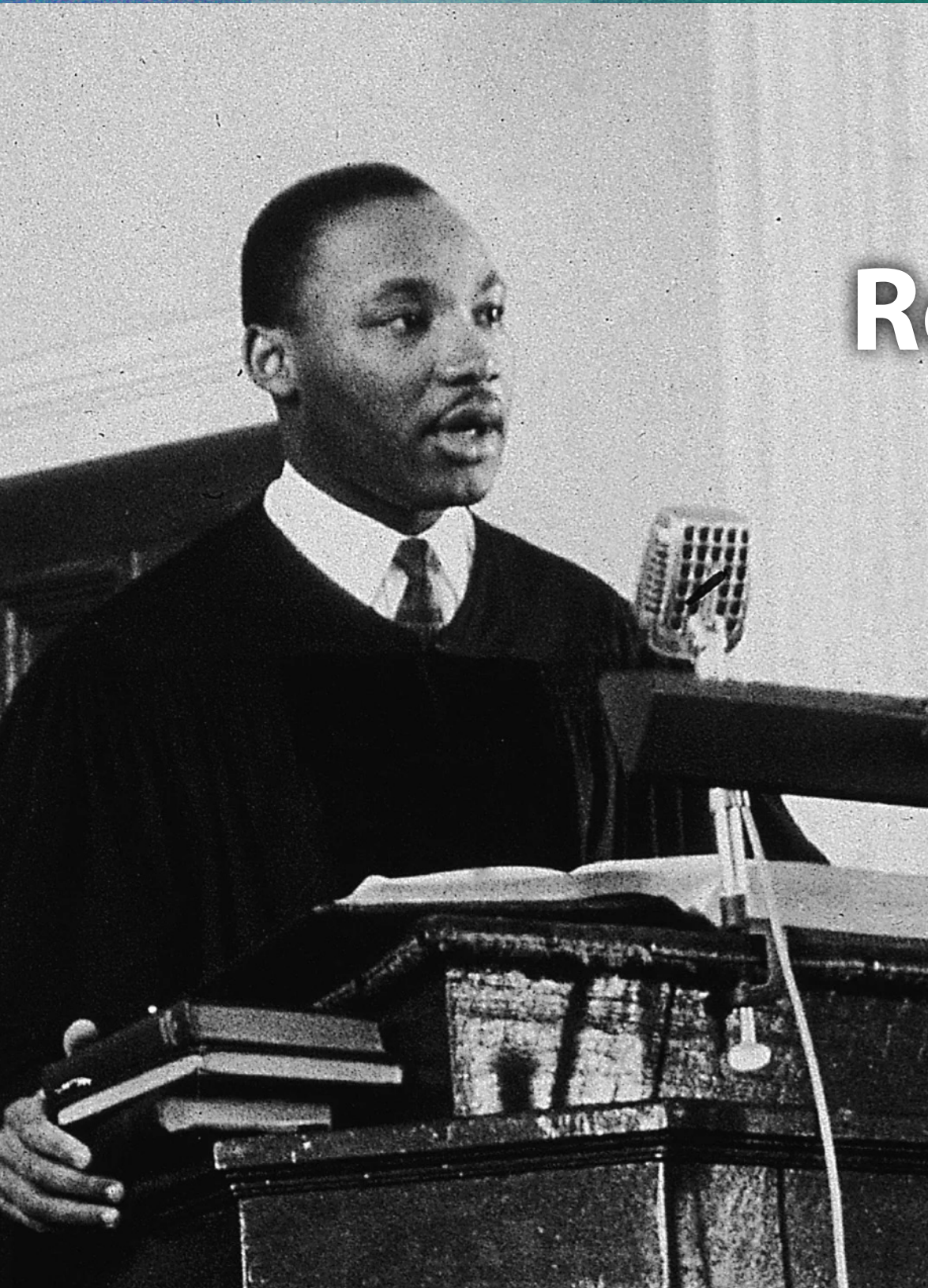
*For the **love of money** is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.*



**Our Vision to Love & Serve  
Comes on the Weekend of the  
Dr. Martin Luther King Holiday**







**Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**An Example of Love & Service**

Photo from December 1955

26 year old Pastor



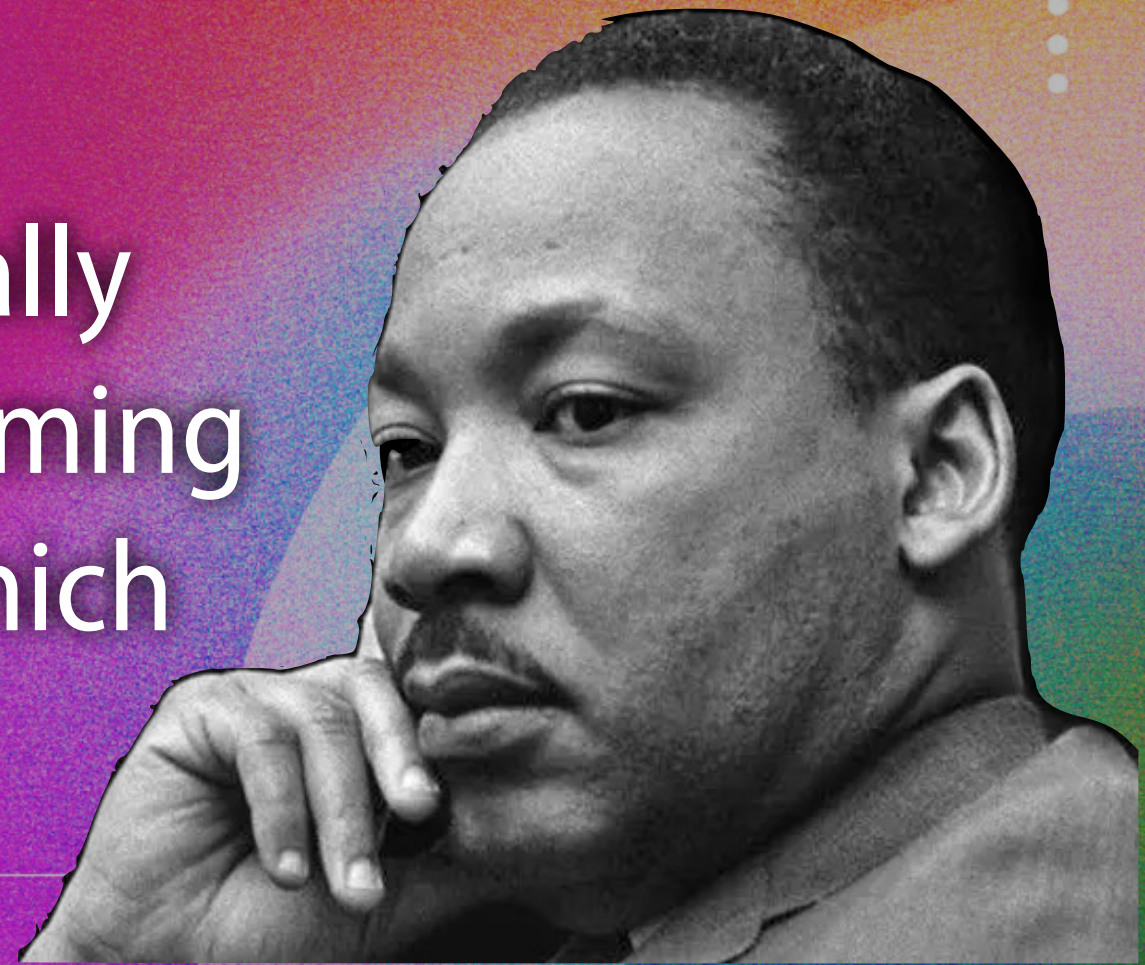


A Drum Major for Justice



“In speaking of love we are not referring to some sentimental emotion. It would be nonsense to urge men to love their oppressors in an affectionate sense... When we speak of loving those who oppose us...we speak of a love which is expressed in the Greek word *agape*.

*Agape* means nothing sentimental or basically affectionate; it means understanding, redeeming goodwill for all men, an overflowing love which seeks nothing in return.”

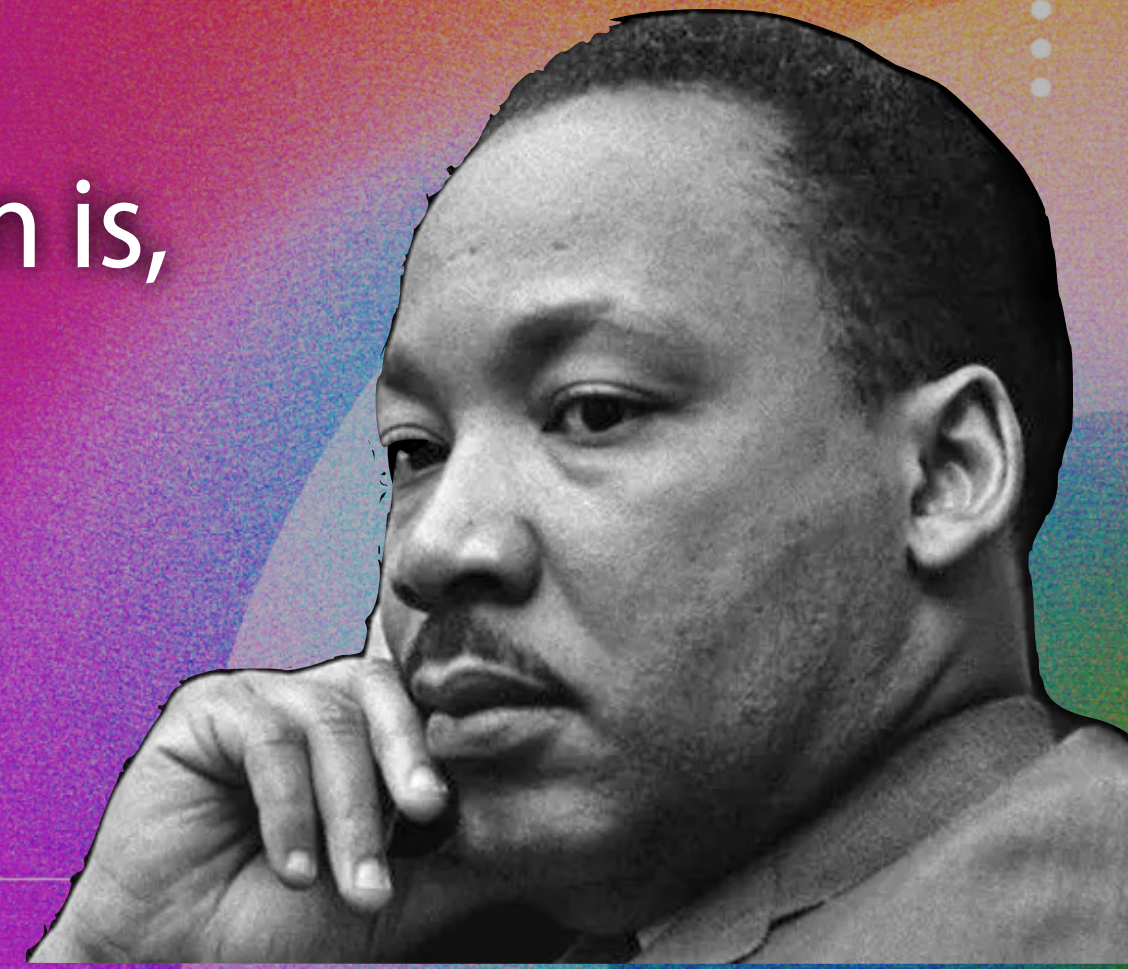




“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”

⋮ “Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend.”

“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is,  
**‘What are you doing for others?’ ”**





# From Dr. King's 1967 Book *Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?*

“Power at its best is love implementing the demands of justice. Justice at its best is love correcting everything that stands against love.”





## Excerpt: Letter from the Birmingham Jail

In deep disappointment I have wept over the laxity of the church. But be assured that my tears have been tears of love. There can be no deep disappointment where there is not deep love. Yes, I love the church. How could I do otherwise? I am in the rather unique position of being the son, the grandson and the great grandson of preachers. Yes, I see the church as the body of Christ. But, oh! How we have blemished and scarred that body through social neglect and through fear of being non-conformists.





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*Loving God. Loving People. Serving The World.*

## Loving God

Devotion to God through prayer, worship,  
study, solitude, and reflection





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## Loving People

Sharing the Gospel of Christ, making disciples,  
“seeing” people as they are and where they are,  
modeling the life and love of Christ, providing  
insight and resources to enrich spirit, soul, and  
body



# Serving the World

Serving the community without preaching, letting our love and example “preach”

⋮ **John 13:34-35**

*A **new commandment** I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. **By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.***





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# Justice = Righteousness TEACHING SERIES

## Biblical & Social **JUSTICE** WHAT IS IT?

An Everyday Person's Guide to Understanding Justice  
And the Role of the Church in Our Society



**Monday, January 15, 2023**  
**3:00pm EST**

YouTube



LIVE

BRYAN HUDSON, D.Min.

**TOPIC:** *Insights from Rev. Dr. King's  
Letter from the Birmingham Jail*

[www.BiblicalJusticeBook.com](http://www.BiblicalJusticeBook.com)

Clarity and understanding for today from Chapter Seven of my book:  
*Justice, What Is It?* An Everyday Person's Guide to Understanding Justice and the Role of the Church